

Programs are generally limited to the first 15 participants.
Please register at least one day in advance.
Come out and enjoy our natural areas!

December 1st
Pinelands Treasure Hunt
(3:00pm-5:00pm)
Come discover modern treasure-hunt adventures at Pinelands Natural Area. With the help of Global Positioning Systems (GPS) units, a new outdoor hobby has been created worldwide where one can find another's hidden treasures. GPS units are optional; we will have some to use. Call for details or go online to www.geocaching.com to learn more.

December 8th
Wildlife Walk at Bluefield
(9:00am - 12:00am)
Experience a long morning walk through flatwoods and open grasslands, searching for wildlife. Geared toward hikers with the stamina to last the over 3 mile hike. Wear hiking apparel, and bring drinking water, cameras and binoculars as we trek over three miles.

December 15th
Paleo Hammock Owl Prowl
(5:30 - 7:00pm)
Who, who, who wants to see barred owls, screech owls, and great horned owls? A biologist will call our local feathered friends from under an oak hammock. Flashlights are necessary.

January 5th
Birding at Indrio Savannahs
(3:30pm - 5:30pm)
Bring your binoculars and come enjoy a peaceful evening among wading birds of Florida.

January 12th
Introduction to Frisbee Golf at Ten Mile Creek Recreation Area
(10am-noon)
Learn all about this fast-growing recreational activity with hands-on participation and guided instruction. Join us for a good time for all ages as we play Frisbee Golf.

January 19th
Paleo Hammock Archaeological Walk
(9-10:30 am)
Learn about the early peoples of Florida with a walk back in time as we discuss the life histories of the Paleo-Indians and other early inhabitants of this area.

January 26th
Pinelands Animal Signs Trek
(9:00am - 11:00am)
Been out hiking and not necessarily seen wildlife, but evidence they've been there? Tracks, scat and other things animals leave behind are valuable clues that we can learn a lot from. Put on your sleuthing cap and join us in becoming animal "detectives" to try to identify and interpret signs we see.

February 2nd
Pinelands Day Hike
(3:00 - 6:00pm)
Explore the Pinelands, 750 acres of pristine pine flatwoods, with other intermediate level hikers. The trek will cover over 5 miles, ending just before sunset. Bring water, snacks, and possibly camera and/or binoculars.

February 9th
FL Scrub-Jays at Sheraton Scrub
(9:00-11:00 am)
Come learn about the only bird species found in Florida and no where else in the world! Learn about the life history of this beautiful and unique bird, including the special habitat in which it lives and its "family values". Please bring binoculars if you have them; if we're lucky, we should be able to get a very close look at them.

February 16th
Birding at Sweetwater Hammock
(8:00 am - 10:00am)
Become a "citizen scientist" for the day by identifying and counting birds for the annual Great Backyard Bird Count. Held around the 2nd week of February, volunteers count birds all across the continent and enter results into a database that provides a snapshot in time of how bird populations are doing. No experience is necessary; just an interest in learning how to identify birds! We'll go over how to use binoculars and field guides (please bring if you have them), and what to look for when trying to identify birds. Then we'll go on a birding hike and put our skills to use. Go to www.birdsource.org for more information.

February 23rd
Lil' Tyke Hike at Ancient Oaks
(10:30-11:30 am)
Located just past the playgrounds within the Weldon Lewis Park, the Ancient Oaks Natural Area offers a short loop trail that winds through 150 year old oaks and cabbage palms. Join us for a scavenger-hunt based hike for children ages 2-10. Armed with a clipboard of pictures of animals and plants to find and sounds to hear, children will learn how to use their senses to truly experience nature.

March 1st
Pinelands Owl Prowl
(7:30pm - 9:30pm)
Who, who, who wants to see barred owls, screech owls, and great horned owls? A biologist will try to call in our local feathered friends. Please bring a flashlight.

March 8th
Spruce Bluff Archeological Walk
(9:00am - 10:30am)
Discover a ceremonial Indian mound built thousands of years ago. Learn about the immense process of constructing it and the significance behind it. Along the way, we'll talk about various plants early Indians used for food, shelter and medicine.

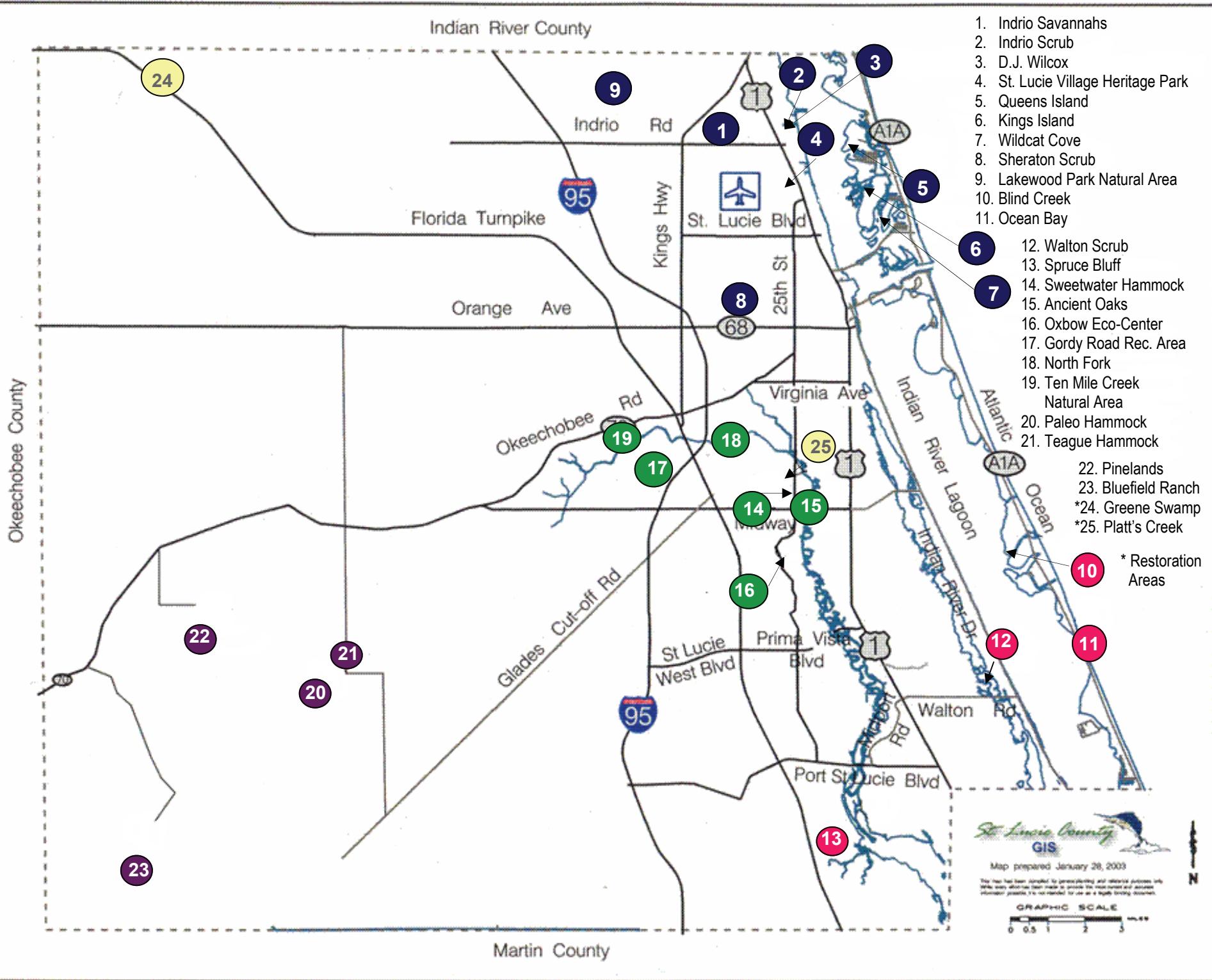
March 15th
Insects at Teague Hammock
(10:00am -12:00 pm)
Walk through a hammock of giant oaks and cabbage palms, and through open fields in search of nature on a small scale. Discover insects under rocks and logs, on plants, and in the air by viewing them using your own binoculars, or by catching them with provided nets. Together, we'll try to identify the critters we discover.

March 22nd
Coastal Plants at Ocean Bay
(9-10:30 am)
Ever wondered how early inhabitants of the coastlines treated toothaches? Unique coastal vegetation, including tropical hardwood hammock plants as well as beach dune vegetation is the topic of this trip, including discussion of how early peoples put these plants to use.

March 29th
Spring Wildflower Walk at Indrio Savannahs
(9-10:30 am)
Celebrate spring by seeing what has bloomed in the flatwoods and in and around the depression marshes.

April 5th
Amazing Amphibians at Indrio Savannahs
(7:30-9:00 pm)
Learn about the natural history of the native and non-native frogs of Florida, participate in a fun hands-on exercise to learn some of their unique calls, and hike to wetlands to try to see them and hear their calls.

April 12th
Stargazing at Bluefield
(8:00pm - 12:00am)
Calling all stargazers! Fix your eyes on the sky, miles from the city lights, with the expertise of the local astronomy club members to help guide viewing through professional telescopes. Bring a chair or blanket to view from.



Nature Program Schedule

Winter - Spring
2007 - 2008

St. Lucie County
Environmental
Resources
Department

Natural Areas
and Preserves



Environmental Resources
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